SEP 1 2 2008 HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Jeff Miller, et al.

Serial No.:

10/656,684

Filed:

September 5, 2003

Title: "Drilling Fluid and

Method for Enhanced Suspension"§

MAIL STOP AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Group Art Unit: 1796

Confirmation No.: 8556

Examiner: KUGEL, TIMOTHY J.

Atty. Docket No.: HALB:045

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA EXPRESS MAIL

PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE DEPOSITED THIS CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL, POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW, ADDRESSED TO:

MAIL STOP AF

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

KAREN TRIPP

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL: EH310666321US

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO **FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 27, 2008. Please amend the application as indicated below:

- Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper;
- Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper; and
- Summary begins on page 12 of this paper.
- Affidavit of Ian Robb is attached hereto.

An extension of time is not needed for this response and but a fee is believed due

for the amendment to the claims. The Commissioner is authorized to charge 09/17/2008 HDESTA1 00000047 10656684

01 FC:1201 02 FC:1202 210.00 OP 150.00 OP

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undersigned's deposit account no. 50-0807 for this fee and any other fees that may be due for this application (except the issue fee).

Please amend the application as follows: